



Lots of news on the rainforest front in Australia. Most importantly, the Federal elections resulted in a victory for the Australian Labor Party which they attributed to the environmental vote. The new Government immediately promised to nominate the Queensland wet tropics to the World Heritage list in spite of total opposition from the Queensland State Government. The Liberal Party acknowledged that they would have to alter their environmental policies and stated their support for World Heritage nomination.

On August 22, the Government advertised its intention to nominate the wet tropics including the Daintree area and called for comments on the proposal and on the proposed boundaries. Closing dates for comments is 22 October 1987. It is of the utmost importance that as many people as possible write in support of World Heritage listing to

THE RAINFOREST UNIT
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT
GPO BOX 787 CANBERRA
ACT 2601 AUSTRALIA

The Queensland Government has already indicated that it will challenge the World Heritage listing in the Australian High Court. It will be useful in that setting for the court to realise the extent of public interest in preserving these unique Gondwanaland remnants, so submissions, of any length, of any type, in support of the forests are needed.

On August 14, the re-elected government banned any further use of rainforest timber in furniture for the new Parliament House under construction.

However the elections also resulted in the unseating of several members of the Senate Committee inquiring into the environmental effects of the World Bank and Australia's bilateral aid program. The RIC and others instigated this inquiry and it is of great importance that the new committee continue with this inquiry. The lending policies of the multilateral development banks are arguably the single largest factor in worldwide rainforest destruction and Australia's bilateral aid programme must become ecologically responsible. Please write to the secretary, Standing Committee on Science Technology and the Environment, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600 urging them to proceed with the inquiry at once.

On the 5th of September, The Australian Conservation Foundation held a conference "Exploring the Alternatives to Rainforest Timbers" at Sydney University.

In his opening address, the ex-Premier of NSW Neville Wran (now Chairman of the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation - CSIRO) spoke of the rapid disappearance of the rainforests. In the next day's Sunday Telegraph he called for a ban on the import of rainforest timbers. He said that "international bans on rainforest timbers would be an effective deterrent to countries engaged in widespread rainforest felling."

NSW RAINFOREST

John Seed showed slides and spoke at the conference on the situation of the world's rainforests. He also attacked the complacency of the NSW conservation movement and the NSW Government in assuming that the NSW rainforests had been saved when, in reality, only 25% of the rainforests are protected in National Parks (and this is only 8% of the rainforests that existed at the time of European settlement). More than half of the rainforests are in the hands of the Forestry Commission (and we can only agree with Wran that "Rainforests are too important to be entrusted to foresters" Sydney Morning Herald, 6 September). Logging is proceeding in spite of opinion polls showing that 70%-80% of the people of NSW want an end to rainforest logging. Approaches to the NSW Government about further protection for the rainforests had been rebuffed with the claim that there is not enough public pressure to necessitate any action. Please write to Barrie Unsworth, Premier, Parliament House, NSW 2000 and let him know that we want an end to rainforest logging in NSW before the State Elections next year.

Seed predicted that traditional methods of high profile civil disobedience would accompany next year's elections if the NSW Government refused to acknowledge what must be the most rainforest aware constituency in the world. He singled out the rainforests of the Focal Peak area, the northern Washpool rainforests and the 50,000 Ha held by the Forestry Commission in the Port MacQuarie area as likely sites for confrontation.



THE PENAN

On September 8, The Rainforest Information Centre, Wilderness Society and Australian Conservation Foundation held a demonstration outside the Malaysian Trade Commission in Sydney protesting the destruction of Malaysian rainforests and supporting the Penan tribe, whose blockade of logging on their land in Sarawak is entering its sixth month. Similar actions were held on this day in the US, Germany and several other countries as part of World Rainforest Week.



We have sent money to Bruno Manser and the Penan (thanks to all those who responded to our appeal) and have now delivered over 2,000 signatures in support of the Penan to Malaysian authorities. The brave stand taken by the Penan and their supporters in Malaysia is the front line in the movement to protect the world's rainforests. Please collect petition signatures, send letters to Malaysian authorities and financially support the Penan campaign via RIC. See WRR's 7 & 8 or write us for more details and updates.

WRONG, WONG!

News just to hand from SAM (Friends of the Earth) in Malaysia reveals that Sarawak Environment and Tourism Minister Datuk Amar James Wong personally holds 100,000 ha of timber concessions in the disputed area. Mr Wong describes logging as "my bread and butter" (what is his government salary, then?), and challenges his detractors to tell the difference between primary forest and areas logged over five years previously. If they would let us into the area, we would take up that challenge - or maybe if he listened to the Penan rather than taking out injunctions against them they could show him a thing or two- or perhaps someone in his department could start to point him towards the mass of scientific evidence about the effects of logging in tropical moist forests - that is, of course, if he has any time for his government job after pursuing his "bread and butter" interests.

Mr Wong sees no conflict of interest between his environmental portfolio and his tropical moist forest logging interests.

Letter from Promundo 99, Miguel Grinberg, Casilla 60, Sucursal 14, Buenos Aires 1414, Argentina:

"....I have read many sections of previous reports, with great impact. We are part now of a National Network on Environmental Emergencies involving both grassroots people and neighbour's groups affected by industrial pollution all across the country. There are from 50 to 60 organizations involved....I completed my second term as Board Member of the Nairobi's Environment Liaison Centre last November....a new PROMUNDO bulletin is coming out again soon, and Rainforest Information will be translated there into Spanish...I am also finishing my Green Book, including for the first time only 100% stuff from Latin origin...."

debt for conservation

.... AT LAST

Ian Peter

In the last world Rainforest Report, we carried part of an article by Tom Falvey persuasively arguing that only by considering Third World Debt would we be able to develop realistic programs to deal with the tropical forests crisis. Now, a few months later, we can happily report that there are examples of this in operation.

Conservation International recently sparked considerable interest with its announcement of a 'debt for nature' swap affecting a large land area in Bolivia . Another slightly different deal engineered by World Wildlife Fund (US) has acquired part of a national park in Costa Rica. The Costa Rica and Bolivia swaps used slightly different methods to achieve their ends.

Legislation is now planned in the United States to make such deals even more attractive, by allowing private banks to make tax deductible donations of debt to conservation groups. In the Bolivian example above, for instance, the private bank would be able to claim a tax deduction of \$ 650,000 , the face value of the debt, although it would only be redeemable for \$100,000 in the open market. Such moves would make this direction very attractive.

Even more so when you consider that, if the Bolivian example could be projected to other countries, the total remaining tropical moist forests of Planet Earth could be protected for a mere 1 billion dollars - the equivalent of just one years expenditure under the recently adopted Tropical Forest Action Plan!

Unfortunately, the figures cannot be projected that way. Nevertheless, it is interesting to speculate how much forest \$5 billion could protect under debt swapping arrangements.

These arrangements represent a most exciting new direction in tropical forest protection, and the Rainforest Information Centre is creating the Rainforest Trust as a conduit for further debt swaps in the Asian and Pacific regions. It is hoped that multilateral banks, international aid agencies, large corporations, and governments will see the positive ramifications of this sort of arrangement, and that future editions of World Rainforest report will be able to bring you many further examples of debt being exchanged for conservation.

Just a few days prior to the precedent setting Conservation International/Bolivian deal, United Nations agencies, the World Bank and major international aid agencies promised funding of one billion dollars a year for the next eight years to the Tropical Forest Action Plan.

By now most non government organisations interested in the fate of the forests have reacted with despair. 75% of the plan's funding will go to industrial uses of forests, agroforestry (occasionally disguised as fuelwood) programs, and strengthening forestry institutions. A mere eight percent of the plan's expenditure is earmarked for conservation of natural areas, and even under this heading we find large international programs researching genetic possibilities for pine plantations.

The plan , just updated in a new glossy form, is a bitter disappointment. It simply doesn't understand biological diversity as an issue, doesn't realise that consumption patterns in tropical timber use will have to change, and continues to propagate proven myths such as sustained yield logging in tropical moist forests. Its individual recommendations for programs in various countries have conservation groups across the globe reeling with horror. The plan is about forestry, not forests; profits, not people; and represents a disastrous continuation of business as usual rather than a positive program to address a global crisis. We waited a long time for international institutions to react, and this, their first major reaction, is insufficient to deal with the problem. Eight years of the Tropical Forest Action Plan, and eight billion dollars of expenditure, is likely to see less forest protected than has been achieved by Conservation International for the expenditure of a mere \$100,000.

Let's hope that the proponents of the Tropical Forests Action Plan will see that debt swapping for conservation offers a far more suitable direction for dealing with the crisis and revise their plans.





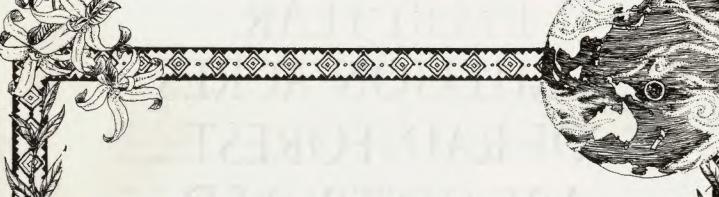
SOLOMON ISLANDS URGENT ALERT RE RENNELL ISLAND

Rennell Island in the Solomon Islands is one of the most unique sites of the world. Currently it is under threat of logging by a timber company, who are pressing landowners to sign a contract which will destroy their forests, their culture, and their livelihood.

Any commercial logging on Rennell will be an ecological disaster. We ask your urgent help in writing to those people listed below in support of retaining Rennell's outstanding ecology.

Facts about Rennell.

- * Rennell is situated about 160 km south of Guadacanal in the Solomon Islands.
- * Rennell has been described as the world's finest upraised coral atoll.
- * It has an area of about 69000 hectacres.
- * The island contains the largest lake in the Pacific of about 15,000 hectacres. About 200 small islands are dotted around the edges of the lake.
- * Apart from small areas of garden, the island is covered with pristine rainforest.
- * There are about 2000 people living on Rennell, mostly engaged in subsistence agriculture.
- * Rennell has been isolated for a long time, and there is a high degree of endemicity in the species present. Of the about 50 species of birds on Rennell, 21 are unique species or subspecies (Danish and British Scientific Expeditions 1951 1953).
- * Rennell is practically unexplored botanically, but it is likely that over 40% of the species do not occur elsewhere.
- * It is the most pristine tropical island of its size in the world.
- * It is almost entirely surrounded by a fringing reef which contains a bewildering array of corals, fish and other marine species.
- * Because of the poor coral soils , a logging operation would permanently devastate the island and lead to disastrous ecological effects including the extinction of numbers of species of plants and animals, decreased rainfall, loss of topsoil etc..
- * The forest is not a big one, and a logging operation would be only marginally viable even in straight out dollar terms. It certainly would not produce much revenue either for the local people or the central Govt.



The third South Pacific National Parks and Reserves Conference held in Apia in June and July 1985 recommended that priority should be given to establishing a protected area on Rennell Island. An IUCN report "Review of the Protected Areas System in Oceania" made the same recommendation.

The island has immense potential as a 'nature tourist ' and scientific destination, which could provide a sustained and substantial income to the local people if properly developed and controlled. A commercial logging operation would greatly reduce its tourist potential and the future income prospects of the people.

Rennell is a jewel of the Pacific. It must not be logged. Alternatives to provide income for the inhabitants must be developed.

Write now to:

The Hon Ezekiel Alebua Prime Minister Parliament House P.O. Box G19 Honiara Solomon Islands

Hon John Tepaika, OBE Minister of Health and Medical Services, P.O. Box G19, Honiara Solomon Islands

(John Tepaika originally approached Foxwood and Co on behalf of the Rennelese Area Council. He favours logging because "We desparately need foreign exchange. Thus the selling of our much loved land and forests which we do with broken hearts for the future"). Another case for a debt for conservation swap?

EXTRACT FROM FOXWOOD LTD's PROPOSAL FOR LOGGING RENNELL

Selective Cutting: "We will not approve cutting any logs with base less than 50cm. this method immediately preserves at least 50% of the forest for future cutting. It allows the forest to remain undisturbed as cutting is by random method on timber 50cm and above....Wild life especially bird life will # not be unduly effected."

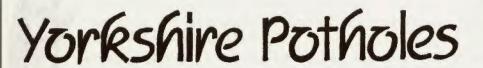
Foxwood Ltd's address is P.O. Box 8, Honiara, Solomon Islands. They are a member of the Wang Group of companies operating in the Solomon Islands.

EVERY YEAR
11 MILLION ACRES
OF RAINFOREST
ARE DESTROYED
FOR THE SAKE OF
CONVENIENCE.

Campaigh to Save Tropical Rainforests

FRIENDS OF THE EARTH

377 City Road, London ECTV 1NA. 01-837 0731



hand crafted wooden toilet seats

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE;

from Keith Mollison, Yorkshire Potholes, 82 Harehills Ave., Leeds LS8 4EX United Kingdom;

"....As you will see from the letterhead we make bathroom furniture. The fashion here at the moment is for traditional bathrooms using mahogany. We do use some mahogany, mainly Brazilian, but have taken a stand on finishing with it by March 1988 and changing to European Oak and Pine. In doing this we also hope to influence the rest of the industry by raising the issue of the importance of conserving tropical rainforests..."

A report just received from SKEPHI (Jalan Suryopranato no 8, IT. IV, Jakarta 10130 , Indonesia .)

"In the last few months, forest fires have raged in almost every island in Indonesia, the most serious being in East Kalimentan. The total amount amount of damage has not yet been estimated, but for South Sumatra more than 4000 ha of reforestation area was damaged with a loss of close to 1.9 billion Rupiahs.

So far from our analysis, at least half of the damaged area is pine and eucalyptus monocultures. We are trying to analyse the ecological and socio-economic impacts of the forest fires.

SKEPHI would like to launch a campaign in which information on forest fires, prevention, rehabilitation, and the factors and impact can be known to the public. To do this we need information. Any sort of information would be welcome - literature, clippings, reports and pictures. Especially we need information on prevention, rehabilitation and dangers of monoculture. Please help us in the campaign to prevent future fires. All sort of support will be very much appreciated."



Extract from letter from Alfred Herzig, Guatemala:

"...Since I first got to read your "World Rainforest Report" in May 1986 I wanted to write to you and thank you for your activities in your area. I am a member of the "Friends of the Forests" here in Guatemala, and I am equally concerned about how little the authorities do to prevent a collapse of our environment. Unfortunately, I do not believe that such will change in the near future unless great ecological disasters make our point of view more public. But, I am equally convinced that it is our intellectual obligation to apply all our capability to stop the destruction of our planet.....I wrote this letter to you to encourage you and to express my thanks for what your organisation has achieved...."



RAINFOREST AND PSYCHE

In the fourth World Rainforest Report, Queensland zoologist Peter Dwyer noted that the New Guinea highlanders find the rainforest wildlife not only good to eat, but also "good to think".

He goes on to say that "Whilst we don't eat our rainforests, we do become enmeshed in our perceptions and thinking about them until they suddenly and vividly possess for us values that we can only identify as symbolic, intrinsic and - with some desparation, - as spiritual.

The tropical rainforests are primitive and ancient ecological systems whose origins stretch backwards through the emergence of the flowering plants in Jurassic times over 135 million years ago to the plants preserved in the coal measures of the Carboniferous millions of years before that and which appear to us to-day in the form of plastics.

Such is biogeochemical continuity."

Dwyer's ability to see rainforests of hundreds of millions of years ago embedded in the plastics of the present age is a good example of the psychological effects of rainforests upon people who spend their time in them. Psychobiogeochemical continuity?

Why is this so? Why do we who spend time in rainforests "become enmeshed in our perceptions and thinking about them"?

I believe that contact with rainforests energises, enlivens a realisation of our <u>actual</u>, our biological self. They awaken in us the realisation that it was "I" that came to life when a bolt of lightning fertilized the chemical soup of 4.5 billion years ago; that "I" crawled out of Devonian seas and colonised the land; that, more recently, "I" advanced and retreated before four ages of ice.

We are composed of the ashes of ancient stars weaving themselves into ever more brilliant complexity, weaving themselves into rainforests, weaving themselves into $\underline{\tt us}$.

I am that!

RAIMBORKST



Yes, our psyche is itself a product of the rainforests. We evolved for hundreds of millions of years within this moist green womb before emerging a scant five million years ago, blinking, into the light.

When we enter the rainforest we become acutely and personally aware of the exquisite intelligence of Nature, holding millions of species in dynamic, evolving equilibrium.

In the light of these forests, our puny human intelligence becomes aware of itself as a mere fragment of this vast compassionate web. Our tiny, momentary life finds a true frame of reference there, against which our humanity can see itself. We realise the matrix within which (regardless of any arrogant fantasies we may have to the contrary) we are inextricably embedded.

The intelligence of the rainforest which gave rise to human beings (as well as the other myriad creatures) remains accessible to humans who choose to surrender to it. Unfortunately the thick insulation of social fictions that we call our "selves" may prevent us from recognising that we are just one leaf on the tree of life, just one strand in the vast biological fabric, incapable of independent existence.

We may then labour under various delusions like: the universe revolves around the earth, the world was created for our benefit, or that our relationship with the myriad creatures is to "subdue and dominate" them.

A few years ago, the Pulitzer prize winning eco-poet Gary Snyder was working for the then Governor of California Jerry Brown. An exasperated Brown said: "Gary, why is it that you're always going against the flow?"

Snyder replied: "Jerry, what you call 'the flow' is but a 16,000 year eddy. I'm going with the actual flow."

Thinking like a rainforest!

If we enter a rainforest and allow our energies to merge with the energies that we find there, then the rainforest may be a place where our roots are able to penetrate through the soft soil reaching beyond the sad 16,000 year history and into the reality of our billions-of-years-of-carbon journey through the universe. Various truths which had been heretofore merely "scientific" become authentic, personal and, yes, spiritual. We may now penetrate to a truly deep ecology.

John Seed

STATE OF THE WORLD - 1987

The Blue Planet- habitable how long?Since 1950 world population has doubled, food production has nearly tripled, and fossil fuel use has more than quadrupled," says Lester R. Brown, Worldwatch Institute president and director of the study, State of the World 1987 "Many of these threshold crossings, which are making the earth less habitable for future generations, are taking society by surprise," said Brown. "The most threatening globally are the depletion of the ozone layer, climate change, and the loss of biological diversity.".....

"No generation has ever faced such a complex set of issues requiring immediate attention," Brown concluded. "Preceding generations have always been concerned about the future, but ours is the first to be faced with decisions that will determine whether the earth our children inherit will be habitable.'

Extract from 'Development Forum' April 1987, UN Division for Economic & Social Information:

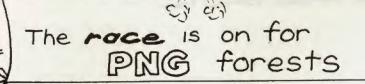


THE RESTLESS DESERTS CONTINUE TO GROW.

"Every year, an area twice the size of Belgium, 60,000 square kilometres, becomes a desert. This is despite promises made 10 years ago by 94 nations to turn back the tide of sand. Only three countries, Tanzania, Burundi and Uruguay, have written national plans to reverse the growth of deserts, according to Noel Brown of the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), and improvement is nowhere in sight...."

"...In 1977, the cost of halting the worldwide desertification of land, most apparent in the sub-Saharan countries of Africa, was put at \$4500 million a year until the end of the century. So far, the world's richer nations have committed no more than \$600 million a year for a total of about \$6 billion, and not all of that has found its way into the field yet. Most has gone into building roads and sanitation.

New York Times, Mar.31 1987



The tempo is quickening in the rush for the rich spoils of Papua New Guinea's remaining tropical forests. As other South-East Asian countries exhaust their own supplies, (Thailand, India & Peninsular Malaysia to name a few), the multi-nationals are up to their old tricks.

Transfer pricing to minimise tax liability, discrediting and removing unco-operative politicians, disparities between stated export quantities and receipts in importing countries, are part of the all too familiar story. The Forest portfolio has changed hands three times this year ending up with Prime Minister Paias Wingti. Ted Diro, first of the three, founded the Angus PNG timber developer with Mohammed Abdullah Ang who was arrested this year for alleged breach of trust involving funds of the Malaysian Overseas Investment Corporation, and the company has folded. He was also reponsible for the notorious 25% option racket, where the Forest Industry Council (FIC) can convert duty on logs to timber. Prices can be manipulated to minimise duty. So the PNG Government is paid with its own timber!

Its all here. Transmigration in the Sogeram and Saidor districts will be necessary to allow Golden Sunshine, of the Philippines, to develop the timber areas. Chairman Mickus Maraleu of FIC, which controls the timber industry, co-founded Sakai Management Pty.Ltd. and Kotmanse Logging Development Pty.Ltd. Both of them were recently involved in illegal log removal litigation, (The Times, 19.2.87).

Mickus Maraleu, defending conflict of interest accusations, said that it was a condition of membership of the FIC to have an interest in the timber industry.

Paul Torato, the next Minister for Forests, disregarded Justice Dutton's advice that the FIC was in contravention of the FIC Act to be trading in timber. He was sacked on 2.4.87.

The United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations commissioned a report from Kirkpatrick Jackson of the Goodwood Management Corporation in Manila, on transfer pricing. The report singled out Gaisho(PNG), Shin Asahigawa(PNG) and Lusco and estimated that US\$300 million had been denied PNG by transfer pricing over the last 20 years. Third countries such as Hong Kong are used as intermediate tax havens.

Papua New Guinea is the new frontier of exploitation. Kamareri(Euc.Deglupta) is being replanted into logged over rainforest and being chipped in 10-15 years. A large Japanese plant is logging Kauri Pine for disposable chopsticks. Production from the forests is a wasteful 13cu.m./ha at a declared price of US\$50/cu.m.

Some positive innovations have appeared however. The South Pacific Alternative Technology Foundation has come up with a labour intensive sawmill called the 'Wokabaut Somil', which weighs 350 kg. and disassembles for portage. The local residents can now mill their own timber and can do it via walking trails rather than the capital intensive, destructive clearfelling now practiced.

AMAGONIAM FIASCO

Brazil's nearly finished super highway which runs deep into the Amazonian Basin has been created by burning jungle, and is attracting 13,000 new settlers a month, bringing bars and brothels with them. Observers are calling the BR364 a "road to ruin".

Scientists have been very active in Brazil's Amazon region collecting air, soil, water and gas samples from weather stations, towers, ship and aircraft. The worldwide project is sponsored by NASA collecting information on the chemistry of tropical rainforests. Like ail information it can be used and abused, depending on purpose. Let us hope this information is going to lead to greater understanding and respect of the forest and how to protect it rather than searching for new methods of exploitation and destruction.

In spite of police intimidation and legal apathy, Brazil's "rubber tappers" have formed a union. The The "Seringueiro's" or "Rubber Soldiers" are now 30,000 strong and are managing to protect the forests, which have been their home and means of survival, from Loggers and ranchers. Chico Mendez tapped 200 rubber trees a day since he was 15 years old. He was fortunate enough to learn to read and write from a runaway Brazilian soldier and is now at the head of the union thanks to training by Catholic union organizers. Risking his life daily for the cause seems to be paying off. US Congress officials were so impressed by the union's commitment and policies, it threatened to halt US funding to Brazil until conservation methods were implemented.

BRAZIL - Secret Amazon Nuclear Test Site

After centuries of slaughter, disease, exploitation and land invasions, only some 200,000 indigenous people have survived from an original population of up to 5 million in Brazil. Now those remaining tribes face their most devastating threat ever as the heart of the Amazon region becomes a site for nuclear tests.

Facilities for underground nuclear testing in the Cachimbo Mountains on the border between the states of Para and Mato Grosso have been ready since 1984. Underground wells and chambers, suitable both for nuclear tests and the storage of nuclear waste have been constructed at the 4.5 million hectare Cachimbo air base 1,200 Km north-west of Brasilia. In July 1986, a 320 m test well was completed, and the test area is due to be finished by 1991. At least 8,000 native people live within a 500 km radius of the site, as well as a large number of peasant farmers and mineral prospectors. Source- RAN, San Fransisco

BRAZIL - "Amazonian Fiasco"

As Brazil experiences rapid development, the need to save her tropical rainforest becomes more urgent.

The Greater Carajas Program the largest development program in world, will be larger than France, East and West Germany combined. The program boasts Aluminium and pig iron smelters, the fourth largest dam in ther world, sawmills, food processing plants, an electric railway, a fertilizer plant, two sea ports and one river port to make the most of the rich source of minerals in the Amazonian Basin. The environmental cost of the project is 150,000 square kilometres of rainforest to produce charcoal, 50,000 square kilometres to grow crops for export and palm oil for conversion to fuel, and 30,000 square kilometres for cattle ranches. Violence has erupted over land rights conflicts between Indians. miners, settlers and large corporations such as US Steel and Brazil's Stateowned mining company, CVRD . The World Bank are now attempting to distance themselves from the project viewing the "under-funded, under-administered and under-planned project" as a fiasco. from Kassia, R.I.C

BRAZIL - Take a trip on Brazil's 'Road to Ruin" and "Nowhere Train"

Scandal surrounds a US \$2.5 billion train line that goes "from nowhere to nowhere" involving irrationality, wastage, authoritarianism and personal stubborness. Apparently secret contracts were finalised before bids for them were even opened. Environmentalists are asking if the train line is even necessary considering it runs the same route as the highway and will need to generate 15 million tons of additional cartage to justify its existence.

Starting with grass-roots defence, the "Rubber soldiers" surrounded the encroaching ranch workers and attacked and destroyed their huts, leaving them terrified and stranded deep in the forest. Action such as this has led world powers to look at how Third World governments can save forests while saving money. The "Rubber Soldiers" have demonstrated that they are able to produce more from the forest than ranchers, while conserving it at the same time. from Kassia, R.I.C.

BREAKING THE HAMBURGER CONNECTION

The campaign to stop the destruction of Central America's rainforests by the multinational hamburger companies hotted up in May which Earth First! and the Rainforest Action Network declared "Whopper Stopper Month" ("Whopper" is the name of one of Burger Kings hamburgers.) Over 50 demonstrations were held throughout the US and Burger King sales dropped 11% in May. Then in July, the Earth First! Rainforest Roadshow and Greenpeace had a demonstration outside the corporate headquarters of Pillsbury, Burger King's parent company. A cloth cow paraded outide Pillsbury in downtown Minneapolis eating rainforest leaves in one end and dropping whoppers onto the pavement from the other. Pillsbury then announced that as of September 1., Burger King would stop using beef from rainforest countries.



A report in the Tico Times (Costa Rica) 24 July stated that Burger King had been purchasing 70,000 steers annually from that country for \$35 million and that this accounted fo 70% of that country's beef exports.

This is a significant victory in making the destruction of rainforest unprofitable, but must be accompanied by other initiatives replacing the cattle by other sustainable developments. The World Bank and the other MDB's as well as the bilateral aid programs of first world countries are the obvious vehicle for the transition from unsustainable developments destroying the rainforests and other natural areas.



STOP THE WORLD BANK DESTROYING RAINFORESTS

There were major international demonstrations in Washington at the end of September to accompany the World Bank's Annual General Meeting there. Earth First!, the Rainforest Action Network, Greenpeace, and Rainforest Information Centre joined scores of groups in lobbying and civil disobedience to raise the pressure on the World Bank.

The World Bank has so far responded to our campaign by hiring 100 PR persons (disguised as Ecologists) and by pretending to consult with NGO's in their 8 billion dollar plan to save the tropical forests. As Ian Peter points out elsewhere in this issue, this plan is a fraud.

The following quotes appear on the cover of The Ecologist (Vol 17 No 2/3 1987):

"The Bank is taking steps to assure that the projects financed by it do not have serious adverse ecological consequences ..." - Ernesto Franco, World Bank Representative, March 1970.

"As a matter of routine, environmental issues are not considered ... The Bank does not have the capacity to conduct sector work on environmental issues on a routine basis .." World Bank Internal Memorandum, March 1984.

"...We will strengthen the Bank's long standing policy of scrutinising development projects for their environmental impact and withholding support for those where safeguards are inadequate." Barber P. Conable, President World Bank, May 1987

We can only concur with Edward Goldsmith's scathing open letter to Mr. Conable: "Give us Proof of your 'Greenness'" which appears as the editorial of that issue of The Ecologist.

Furthermore, Third World Network Features (87, Cantonment Rd. Penang, Malaysia) recently pointed out that the World Bank has now announced that its published guidelines on the effects of its developments on tribal people are not those that it observes! Mr. Carlos Escudero, one of the World Bank's senior legal experts, announced that the Bank's real policy for the development of tribal areas is described in a confidential document which is not publicly available.

ITTO

The ITTO represents a most promising avenue in the fight to preserve what we have left of the world's tropical forests. Since March, at the instigation of the 15 non-government observers from the world rainforest movement, the ITTO has been wrestling with the question of 'sustainability'. Those NGO's gave the Council of ITTO a framework for the definition of sustainability. The ITTO has as a principal objective the sustainable use of the tropical forests, and the lion's share of its work budget went to research into reforestation and plantation techniques. Cumbersome though it is, the ITTO can rein in the rate of exploitation until we have the global clout to put a halt to it once and for all.

"A Hardwood Story; Europe's Involvement in the Tropical Timber Trade" is Friends of The Earth UK'S latest report exposing European sources for global deforestation and calling for immediate action by the European tropical timber trade and member states of the European Economic Community to change discriminatory aid and trade policies which encourage deforestation.

Friends of the Earth Organisations throughout Europe, and in particular in the UK, Italy, France, Holland and Belgium simultaneously launched a European-wide consumer campaign to implement the recommendations of the report...

"A Hardwood Story" provides clear evidence that

- * Commercial logging is the second most important cause of tropical deforestation causing the loss of 12.5 million acres annually.
- * Europe uses 40% of the global trade in tropical hardwoods by volume, and is the second-largest consumer in the world, ranking very close to Japan's 48%.
- * The forests of 4 out of 5 of the EEC's main suppliers of tropical hardwoods Malaysia, the Philippines, the Ivory Coast and Gabon are classified by the World Bank as being in critical condition due to commercial loggers.
- * For every 10 trees logged, only 1 is replanted. European aid policies do little to redress this balance.
- * Most European tropical timber imports are used for building and joinery (over 50%), plywoods, domestic and office furniture, transport, packaging and water pilings. For instance in 1984 Britain imported 1.42 million doors from tropical countries...

Its clear that European consumers - just as consumers everywhere - can really make a difference in stopping the deforestation of the tropics. "A Hardwood Story" makes specific recommendations for stopping this destruction and offers concrete workable solutions to deforestation problems. The book is available for 4 pounds 50 plus postage from FOE UK

26/28 Underwood St. London N 1 UK



BOYCOTT TROPICAL TIMBERS

The RIC's Boycott Tropical Timbers campaign is rolling along. 15,000 of our brochures have been distributed around Australia. We will soon be circulating all the architects in the country asking them to specify only plantation-grown timbers. Nodi Mather who has been mainly responsible for this campaign is planning to attend the second meeting of the ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organisation) in Yokohama in November.



MEXICO AND GUATEMALA -Damming the Mayan Vatican

Mexico and Guatemala are planning a series of dams along their border that would effectively destroy a thinly populated jungle paradise rich in Mayan ruins. If built, the dams would create a huge lake, as big as 500 square miles, flooding two major Maya sites, Piedras Negras and Yaxchilan. Fortunately, no bulldozers are moving yet. There's time to listen to the outraged protests of archeologists and environmentalists.

The treasures in this paradise are protected by their remoteness in tangled jungles along the Usumacinta River. Here, in 1960 at Piedras Negras, the Harvard scholar Tatiana Proskouriakoff made a dramatic discovery - that Maya glyphs recorded the actual history of rulers and their reigns. Since then, names of rulers, wars and cities have sprung from inscriptions, yielding for the first time a detailed account of a fabulous civilisation that fell a thousand years ago for uncertain reasons..."It would be like flooding the Vatican." in the judgment of a development economist... Extract from New York Times Mar. 31 1987:

INDONESIA -Govt backs off on Transmigration

The Indonesian Government has slashed by sixty-five per cent the funding of its disastrous Transmigration Program, which moves people in their thousands from overcrowded Java and the other inner territories to the outer islands, including the occupied territory of Irian Jaya (West Papua) without regard for the rights of the indigenous inhabitants. The resettlement target has been reduced from 100,000 to only 1,000 families in 1987.

The Government's decision is partly due to economic pressures; the program is simply proving too expensive now that falling oil revenues are forcing cuts in the development budget. But it is also a result of the sustained campaign mounted against the programme by Survival International and other human rights and environmental groups. Extract from "Survival International" No.16 1987:

NICARAGUA - Government cancels timber concession

Peace Park in the Works
Under increasing pressure from
Nicaraguan environmentalists, citizen
groups and the media, as well as from
environmental activists across the
globe, Nicaraguan President Daniel
Ortega cancelled the San Juan River
watershed timber concession on June 18.
The constitutionally questionable
agreement which ceded 3,200 square
kilometers of virgin tropical rainforest
in southeastern Nicaragua to a private
Costa Rican Timber firm was "entirely
suspended", according to Julie Castillo,
Director of Nicaragua's environmental
agency, IRENA.

from The Environmental Project on Central America, San Francisco:



שי GERMANY - Tropical Timber Boycott

On 7 May the wood traders got an unexpected reception in the Bremen City Hall where they held their annual meeting. 60 protesters from 4 different environmental groups slipped into the building. Bauners were unrolled reading "Boycott tropical timber" "Hands off the rainforest" and so on.

The merchants had to walk past and we shouted "The rainforest dies - the trade makes profit" which they will remember as it is their daily experience.

Later the chairman, Mr Engelhard, and the rest listened to our reproaches. Mr. Engelhard replied that the export amounted to five per cent of all tropical timber only, which is correct. But he forgot to mention that they don't take just any wood but go for the rare old trees in virgin forests. The protesters gave interviews to radio stations in Bremen, Hessen and Southern Germany.

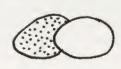
In June further action will follow. For example we will occupy a footbridge of the railroad company which is built out of tropical timber..." from Reinhard Behrend, Rainforest Information, Poseldorfer Weg 17, 2000 Hamburg 13, West Germany.

PANAMA - Canal in Jeopardy

There is growing concern in Panama over the future of one of the world's most important waterways as the country prepares to take control of the canal from the United States in 13 years time. Deforestation of critical watershed areas has led to massive soil erosion and Lake Madden, the artificial reservoir which feeds the canal, is silting up. According to Dr. Stanley Heckadon-Moreno, Panama's leading authority on the canal, the lake has already lost 5% of its storage capacity and is expected to lose a further - and critical - 15% over the next 15 years. This flow of silk from denuded land into the lakes that feed the canal will make the canal shallower, thus limiting its operations by the year 2000 when Panama takes full control of the canal.

This threat to the canal's \$340 million per annum revenue - 17% of the national income - caused a decree to be passed in 1986 outlawing the destruction of any tree in Panama older than 5 years. This law, one of the most stringent environmental decrees ever handed down in Latin America, is being bitterly contested by Panama's lumber industry, peasant leaders and, among other interested parties, the United States Source: RAN, San Fransisco





BANGLADESH - Environment Threatened

"....One endangered resource is the 2,06 million hectares of forests comprising a little more than 15 per cent of the land area of Bangladesh and concentrated in the extreme southeast and south.

The hilly eastern district of Sylhet, for example, has been stripped of its wealth of forests along with valuable commercial and medicinal species of shrubs and herbs. Bare hills now stand where lush vegetation once thrived....

Watershed areas in hills outside Bangladesh particularly those bordering India have not been spared. Many cultivated areas in Sylhet have been rendered useless by blankets of coarse sand deposited by recurring flash-gloods, thanks to the denudation... Extract from Solomons Toktok

PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA -Forests of Xishuangbanna Wang Sen

Described as the "kingdom of wild animals and tropical plants," Xishuangbanna is incredibly rich in genetic resources. Although situated far south in Yunan Province in the border of Laos and Burma, it is widely known at home and abroad as one of the few tropical forests in China.

Covering 19,220 square kilometres in area, Xishuangbanna Prefecture has a nature reserve of 242,000 hectares which enjoys high priority. But from the point of view of ecological conservation, much can be done to improve the management of the reserve.

The first step is to relocate the population. Out of 691,462 inhabitants of the entire prefecture, 14,738 live within the reserve. The density of five persons per square kilometre should not be regarded as a problem of human pressure, but the impact on trees is widely felt..."

INDIA - Tehri Dam Project In Uttar
Pradesh

Are the short term economic and political gains worth the price? Here is part of the bill:

- 70,000 people displaced from their ancestral homes
- The destruction of their traditional

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- The destruction of 42 sq.km of forest and farm
- The destruction of the native wildlife of the area
- India
- The destruction of higher land for construction of the 'new' Tehri
- Increased soil erosion and subsequent defertilization of the land
- Probable downstream disasters from earthquake destruction of the dam - Further disruption of the Garwhal
- culture - More migrants to already overcrowded cities, especially nearby Delhi..." from George Crane, R.I.C.

BOTSWANA - Kalahari Plan turned down:

The Botswana Government has rejected the recommendations of a fact-finding mission on the Central Kalahari Game Reserve that would have allowed human settlement and cattle grazing there. Instead the Government has reaffirmed the reserve's boundaries, rejected the plan for another population centre, halted the development of existing settlements, and will encourage people living in the reserve to move out. BBC Wildlife, 4,12. from "ORYX" April 1987

ZIMBABWE - Botanical reserves threat.

Of Zimbabwe's 15 botanical reserves, which range from 30 to 495 ha (74 to 1200 acres), one, the Haroni Forest Botanical Reserve, has been totally destroyed by tree-felling and cultivation, and another, the Rusitu Forest nearby, is seriously threatened by the same activities. Fortunately, a similar forest type to that of Haroni still survives in another part of the Chimanimanis, but it is the last example in the country. Many of the other botanical reserves lack demarcated boundaries and proper management plans, while roads and tracks have been cut through them after being declared protected areas. Zimbabwe Wildlife, 46.

MADAGASCAR - 'Extinct' lemurs found.

Abour 35 greater bamboo lemurs Hapalemur simus, feared extinct since the early 1970's, have been found in a remote rain forest in south-eastern Madasgascar. They were discovered by Patricia Wreight of Duke University during a recent expedition, and efforts are now underway to persuade the Malagasy Government to establish a reserve for them. The last confirmed sighting was in 1972, when two Frenchmen captured a pair, which soon died. Nature, 16 October 1986, Los Angeles Times, 28 September, 1986.

CAMEROON - Protection for Korup

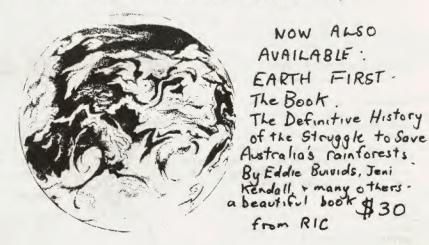
The British Government has stepped in to provide vital funding for the protection of Korup National Park in Cameroon, an area of Africa's richest remaining rainforest.

The Overseas Development Administration has made a grant of 440,000 pounds for a three year project to be run by World Wildlife Fund to help set up the management plan for the park. Korup is a model for combining the needs of conservation with those of the 30,000 or so local farmers, and involves the creation of a buffer zone of sustainable agroforestry, small holder cropping and livestock production around the protected forest zone.

Source-Rainforest Action Network

The film "Earth First!" co-produced by Jeni Kendell and John Seed of the Rainforest Information Centre has been screened to large audiences in Sydney. Melbourne and elsewhere. Over 700 people attended the Lismore premiere, and John Seed showed it to audiences throughout the US in June/July when he toured with Earth First!'s Rainforest Roadshow. John will be returning to the US next year for further roadshows and Council of All beings (re-Earthing) ritual workshops. He will be travelling from Queensland's Sunshine Coast to Melbourne in December with an Earth First! Roadshow. Anyone wishing to organise a show during this period, contact the RIC.

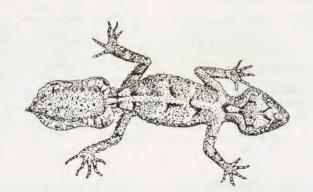
Jeni is travelling in Europe and the US selling "Earth First!" to TV networks (it has been purchased by Channel 4 in the UK among others) and we are hoping to see it screened nationally in Australia by the ABC in the next few months. VHS videos are for sale from the RIC for \$60.



NEW FILM EXPOSES WORLD BANK

A new film, "The Price of Progress" was aired in Washington DC in late September, documenting the environmental and human tragedy created by giant development projects of the World Bank. The film, narrated by Bob Geldorf of "Band Aid" and "We Are The World" fame is produced by Emmy winner Nicholas Claxton...

The film has been shown in Britain on BBC television as well as in Washington DC at the time of the annual World Bank meeting. It has been universally acclaimed. For information on the viewing and distribution schedule of this film, contact Rainforest Action Network, 300 Broadway #28, S.F., CA 94133 USA.





THE EARTH, Thurs. You and Santa can help save the rainforests this Christmas. We have a wide range of merchandise to satisfy all your gift needs, from redneck fathers to cosmic cousins.

We are pleased to announce Santa will be riding his new sled made of plantation pine this year. Right on Santa. (Hope the EARTH FIRST! T-shirt fits).

So don't consume, be silent, die: consume little, think and act globally and hope we are all around long enough to die naturally. Dance your life for planet EARTH.

The best source of rainforest news around, the Rainforest Information Centre is a totally voluntary organisation - no bureaucrats, no salaried staff, no government grants, no rent and minimal overheads. This means that your money goes further and straight to where you want it. Some organisations have to meet a payroll of tens or even hundreds of thousands of dollars before a cent gets spent on the campaigns. Not with us.

WORLD RAINFOREST REPORT

This is the journal of the world rainforest network; the best source of rainforest news around.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE for four issues - \$10 - Australia; \$15 elsewhere - a great gift! Back issues available at \$2-50 each.

NOW !! SUBSCRIBE

copies of World Rainforest Report and other rainforest Hundreds publications are sent out free to Third World environment groups and individuals. If you can support this work, PLEASE DO SO!!

Dailan Pugh's artwork is a feature of World Rainforest Report and many of our publications. We offer a range of goods with his delicate forest art.

STATIONARY SETS

Stationary sets designed by Dailan. 10 sheets of paper with a border like the one on this page. 10 envelopes with rainforest and lyre bird.

THE GREAT DAILAN POSTERS

The Rainforest Cathedral, as featured in reduced form as the cover of World Rainforest Report 7. A view from the groung to upper canopy from inside giant Strangler Fig. in the big size 62cm by 42cm. \$4-00 or \$6-00 laminated. Also two line drawings of rainforest 42cm by 30cm. \$3-00 or \$4 laminated.

BUMPER STICKERS - FREE!

Thanks to Charlie's generosity, we have the following bumper stickers available free. Let us know which ones you want. Send a donation for postage. BOYCOTT RAINFOREST TIMBERS

RAINFOREST THE WOMB OF LIFE SUBVERT THE DOMINANT PARADIGM WORLD BANK FINANCING GLOBAL IMPOVERISHMENT! EARTH FIRST!

IT COST THE EARTH! THINK GLOBALLY ACT LOCALLY





VIDEOS

"EARTH FIRST!" the movie, a history of the direct actions in defense of the Australian rainforests; exquisite shots of the beauties of these rainforests by award-winning cinematographer Paul Tait; testimony of eminent scientists from around the world. Produced by Jeni Kendall and John Seed, directed by Jeni Kendell.

VHS video ... \$60

"GIVE TREES A CHANCE" - Jeni and Paul's previous rainforest film. A passionate account of the struggle for Terania Creek. VHS video ... \$50

ACTIVITY BOOKS

"FORESTS ACTIVITY BOOK" from Rainforest Publishing's "Understanding Australian Habitats" series. Written and illustrated by Dailan Pugh The front and back cover of this issue of World Rainforest Report are taken from this beautiful book. The activities are recommended for children of age 6 to 12, the sensitive line drawings showing great love of the bush are recommended for rainforest lovers of all ages. Also in the same series are 3 other activity books: DESERTS & WOODLANDS; WETLANDS & HEATHS; COASTLANDS AND THE SEA. \$3.50 each including postage.

CALENDAR

1988 PEOPLE'S CALENDAR - special anti-bicentennial edition, illustrated by Bruce Petty and others. "The calendar entries are a source of information relating to the Aboriginal struggle for justice, deaths in custody, women's actions, nuclear testing, conservation and peace blockades etc., all profits go to Committee to Defend Black Rights."
\$4.95 plus \$1 postage

BOOKS

NATIVES OF SARAWAK - SURVIVAL IN BORNEO'S VANISHING FORESTS by Malaysian anthropologist Evelyn Hong. The plight of the Dayaks as their traditional lands are obliterated by loggers and corrupt politicians \$18 incl postage

TROPICAL RAINFORESTS IN SE ASIA by Ken Rubeli - over 400 exquisite colour photos The result of over 7 years work by the author in the rainforests of the Malay Peninsula, Sumatra and Borneo \$55 incl postage

FOREST RESOURCE CRISIS IN THE THIRD WORLD from Sahabat Alam Malaysia. From SAM's important 1986 conference involving conservationists from throughout the world. \$25 incl postage

SARONGS

We also have beautiful sarongs from India. Choice of colours, all with gold thread trimming \$10

CARDS

We have two different sets of cards - beautiful line drawings by Dailan Pugh of rainforest fauna - 10 different 60 cents each plus postage. Set of 4 \$2, set of 6 \$3. The bower-bird and lizard pictured on the next page are included as are flying foxes, varipous birds, brown antechinus, leaftailed gekko etc.



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AUDIO CASSETTES

"THINK GLOBALLY - ACT LOCALLY" - Popular favourite. 60 minute documentary tape with original music of the direct actions that led to the preservation of NSW rainforests.

"It is the emotion, the committment, the inspiration that floors you...the music is superb" (Earth First! Journal) \$8 incl postage

"EARTH FIRST! - SKETCHES FROM THE RAINFOREST" just released music tape from John Seed, Bahloo, Susa and friends \$12 incl postage

THE RAINBOW COLLECTION

The rainbow collection now has each image on a spectacular rectangle of rainbow colours on a white background. We also have new additions since our last report - "SUBVERT THE DOMINANT PARADIGM", with the image of a skyscraper being overgrown by a Strangler Fig tree. Two of our other new t-shirt images are pictured below and they are available with or without the slogan "BOYCOTT RAINFOREST TIMBER". We still have our other very popular images - yin/yang dolphins; "BUSHRANGERS NEED BUSH"; Goanna; "EARTH FIRST!"; "THINK GLOBALLY ACT LOCALLY" and "PEACE HARMONY ECOLOGY". T-SHIRTS, \$14, SINGLETS, \$12 (please specify size) RAINBOW SCARVES \$5.



buy your Christmas presents from us, we need the money

25

Rainforests



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